

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 29, 1858.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. MALLORY made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Joint Resolution S. 34.]

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of James H. Frost and Eliza A. Johnson, have had the same under consideration, and report :

The petitioners allege that they are the only children of John A. Frost, late a boatswain in the navy, who died on the 20th day of October, 1842; that said Frost served as boatswain on board the United States brig Porpoise, in the South Sea Exploring Expedition, under Captain Wilkes, from the 1st of January, 1839, to the 7th of July, 1842, and that, owing to the omission of his name on the pay-rolls rendered on the arrival of the expedition in the United States, the accounting officers of the treasury disallowed his claim for the extra pay of two hundred and fifty dollars per annum, under the act of February 1, 1849. The petitioners pray that the legal representatives of the said John A. Frost may be allowed the sum to which he would have been entitled had his name been upon the pay-rolls of the expedition.

The facts are fully sustained in a letter from the Navy Department, in answer to a call from your committee for information, as also in the annexed certificate from Captain Wilkes.

Your committee are of the opinion that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted, and therefore report the accompanying joint resolution, and recommend its passage.

WASHINGTON CITY, December 6, 1857.

This is to certify that John A. Frost was an acting boatswain of the United States brig Porpoise, one of the vessels of the exploring expedition under my command during the cruise of four years, viz : from 1838, '39, '40, and '41, to '42; that he performed all the duties of his grade to my entire satisfaction, and was called upon to do duties which did not appertain to his grade. For these duties, Congress, by

"act of February 1, 1849," granted *extra pay* to the forward officers of the exploring expedition to the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars a year ; and I know of no reason why Mr. John A. Frost should not have been considered entitled to it, believing that he was as deserving as those who received it, and was engaged in similar duties.

CHARLES WILKES,
Captain United States Navy.